

REPORT OF YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

The Court Diversion Program at the Youth Services Bureau works with juveniles who have been charged with committing a first time offense. Referrals are made by local police departments. The goal of the program is to hold each youth accountable for his/her offense while also instilling a sense of community ownership and citizenship through acts of service. The staff at Youth Services Bureau works with the juvenile over a three to six month period to restore the harm done to the victim, to the community, and to him/herself. The program also provides support for academics and aims at using the youth's strengths and interests as a tool in the diversion process. Through this program YSB strives to teach the youth about the consequences of poor choices, not only to others, but also to themselves and their families. Upon successful completion of the program the offense is permanently expunged from the youth's file.

We are excited to announce the on January 1, 2010 we will be merging with the Belknap County Restorative Justice Program. Our new joint agency will be called Belknap County Youth Services. We will be a department of Belknap County. Besides our Court Diversion program we will be bringing with us to the new agency our other programs; including, but not limited to, Upswing and The Challenge Course. So, while our name and location will change, we will continue to serve the children and families of Alton and the rest of Belknap County.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Morey, Director